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# INFORMATION REPORT

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

COUNTRY Austria/USSR

DATE DISTR. 11 Sep 50

SUBJECT: Current Relations between the Central  
Commercial Bureau of USIA and Intrac GmbH

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(LISTED BELOW)

ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A  
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

- 1 Relations between USIA's Central Commercial Bureau and "Intrac" Gesellschaft fuer Internationalen Warenaustausch und Grosshandel m.b.H., Communist export-import firm in Vienna, have somewhat deteriorated since Smurushenkov assumed Shevchenko's former job as director general of this USIA office. (1) Perhaps one reason for this is that Smurushenkov is now trying to persuade Tikhomirov, Soviet Director General of USIA, to designate the Central Commercial Bureau as the final authority on all USIA transactions. If Tikhomirov sanctions Smurushenkov's plans, USIA firms will be required to clear all of their business dealings with the Satellites, Intrac and other non-USIA firms through the Central Commercial Bureau.
- 2 Meanwhile the Central Commercial Bureau is pressing Intrac for payment of a fairly large debt which it has incurred with this USIA office. In this connection USIA employees have heard that Intrac is in serious financial straits, allegedly because it has lost money on a number of transactions with Hungary, namely compensation agreements involving the exchange of USIA electrical equipment for Hungarian meat and lard products. (2)

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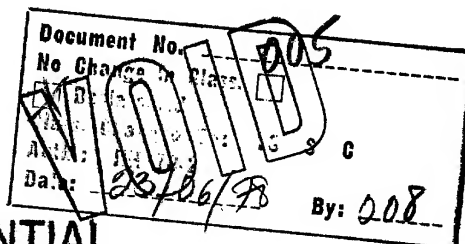
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(1) [REDACTED] Comment: Smarshenkov's appointment was reported by another usually reliable source [REDACTED]

(2) [REDACTED] Comment: Similar information regarding Intrac's present difficulties resulting from the inferior quality of Hungarian compensation goods was reported in ODI, USFA Intelligence Summary No. 251, dated 7 April 1950.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008



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